Nation

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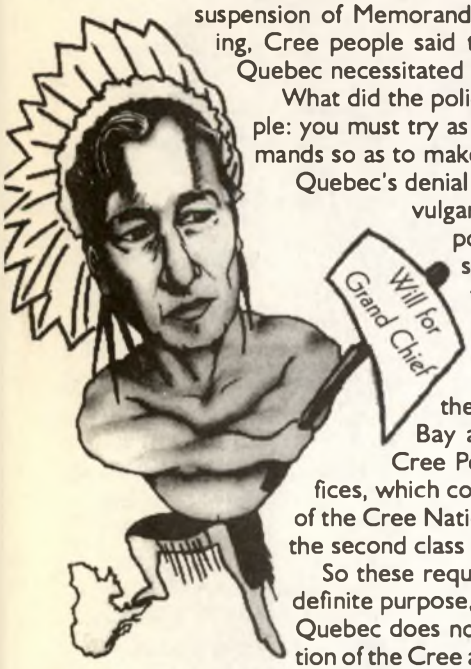
EDITORIAL

MY DEAR FELLOW CREE!

It is my pleasure to announce in this issue of the Nation that we will be running another candidate in this year's Grand Chief election. Surprised by the fact that Neil Diamond received 3% of the vote in the last election, I learned one thing: some people out there are looking for real change. I am that change.



When Quebec's Native Affairs Minister Guy Chevrette announced the suspension of Memorandum of Understanding negotiations and funding, Cree people said that the failure of a policy of compliance by Quebec necessitated a change by or in the leadership of the Cree.

What did the policy of compliance mean then? That's very simple: you must try as far as possible to satisfy your adversary's demands so as to make Quebec's obligations to the Cree possible.

Quebec's denial of these rights is an insult, a slap in the face, a vulgar farting in our general direction. It was unimportant whether or not there was any legal basis for Cree/Quebec negotiations and funding to be suspended. The insult has been delivered. Stand up for your rights and we'll trample all over them.

No people, no nation has done more than the Cree Nation to fulfil their side of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. But the Cree People are required once again to make sacrifices, which could and would eventually would kill the future of the Cree Nation. To give in again would make us worse than the second class citizens we are.

So these requirements Quebec insists on must have a very definite purpose, an agenda which goes far beyond economics. Quebec does not want simple sacrifice; it wants the destruction of the Cree as a People, the fulfillment of an age-old dream; le Québec aux québécois, or simply put, a Quebec dominated by pur laine québécois. Not a situation in which I would trust the extent of Quebec's "effective control of the territory."

Suspensions of funding - obligated by dam construction in our territory - over a forestry court case is nothing but a "legal device" intended to bring a people to its knees with a facade of legality. To destroy the fabric of the Cree Nation and to replace one united Cree Nation with a conglomeration of small First Nations that would consume and destroy each other. I'm sure Quebec's "dept. of planning and implementing backroom deals" is busy these days in an effort to destroy the united Cree front.

So the only way that the Cree Government could satisfy Quebec is by bringing about its own dissolution. Satisfying Quebec is not an economic but a political question. This is a problem for the Cree leadership. To satisfy Quebec they would have to destroy the Cree Nations rights; that they cannot do; and what they can do, will not satisfy Quebec...

But it is the fire in the hearts of Cree youth which will bring us ultimate victory. It will be they who will sustain the nation, which they will create for themselves, ourselves. New young warriors are coming forward in Eeyou Istchee, Youth who have already seen their future slipping away but know full well that unless they act now there will be no future at all. The Cree Nation can be saved only by the national will of the Cree People and their determination to take action.

People ask: is there someone fit to be our leader? Our task is not to search for that person. That person will naturally rise through the grace of the Creator, as in any situation a true natural leader always emerges. Our task is to shape and guide the tomahawk that that person will need when he or she arrives. Our task is to provide the leader with a nation, which is ready for him or her when he or she arises! My fellow Cree, awaken! The new day is dawning!

P.S. This editorial is an April Fools Joke. I do not plan to run for Grand Chief and admire the stand the Grand Council of the Crees and all the chiefs are taking with Quebec's dictatorial and impossible demands of the Cree Nation. The April Fools joke is that I am not running and unfortunately that is the only joke.

More April Fools stuff on pages 23 & 25.

by William Nicholls

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THE COVER
CNIT Players
Design: Sylvia Tennisco
Photos courtesy of the parents

rezNotes

by Ndiamon

I have a friend whose birthday falls on April 1st. April Fool's day. A few people, in his 38 something years, have called my friend fool to his face for no reason other than he's made some mistakes in his life, and these people just couldn't tolerate mistakes cause you know they've never made any.

I may have called him a fool in moments of malice and weakness but never to his face, coward that I am. It's fitting, I think, that he was born on April Fool's Day given his character which rarely strays from telling jokes, improvising songs on his battered guitar and laughing.

We went to school together. Even shared a run down apartment for a few intense and drink filled months. We were, after all, in higher education. We planned a giant party one Friday and invited everybody. Friends, classmates, family, strangers and other ne'er do wells. We must have invited over 150 people in total and 50 of them showed at closing time. The living room was full, the kitchen, the dining room, his mawstah bedroom, my closet of a room, even the bathroom was over the legal capacity. You can imagine the refrigerator, we had removed all the shelving and what little food there was and packed in six cases of beer, 12 litres of wine and other necessities.

The party raged for hours with my roommate holding court and being a brilliant host. Everyone was having the time of their lives. A young new couple was having a bit too much fun falling in love in one of the beds we had to ask them to leave quietly. The cops of course showed up late and uninvited and collared a few overly enthusiastic guests.

The following weekend, and more weekends after that, that's all we heard on our nights out, people asking when our next party was. Alas, that first housewarming was hard to top. We tried for a sequel but only ended being disappointed enough to think of giving up the good life.

Eventually, several years later, he gave up the good life for an even better life. He's a fine upstanding member of his community, helps people in distress, went to university, dresses well, eats his vegetables and, just maybe, follows orders well and still has his sense of humour. Out of the blue he'll smile and say, "You know you're Cree when, if a blind man ask you for directions, you point with your lips." He might have said this too, "You know you're Cree if when you go to a restaurant you order a baloney sandwich."

My point was somehow lost somewhere in this story. I know it had something to do with April Fool's day. Fool's Day indeed.

Here's a little something I found on my computer's hard drive that was written long ago. A mock-up of the newly resurrected Cree@large featuring the Nation's William E. Nichols. Hope you enjoy it.

Well here it is, the long awaited and much hyped section of your favorite magazine, The Nation, Cree@Large. Repeat after me. Cree@Large. You still don't get do you. Cree at Large. I know what you're thinking. Large Crees right? Here we ask you the loyal reader to reveal your soul, so to speak, by answering some profound questions such as, "what's your name?", "Your age?", Even something as mundane as "what's your occupation?" Who knows maybe we'll even ask you about your first kiss.

Our first victim is someone who you may recognize, Will Nichols. Best known as founder and publisher of The Nation but lesser known as a damn good dancer. When Will, the future Conrad Black of the Crees, was first asked to participate in our little experiment, he said, "I knew The Nation would ask me one day."

1. First Memory.....Being checked out by every Cree in Mistissini after being one month old. For those of you who came later, yes I am normal in all aspects. Actually my mother told me this, I cannot tell a lie.

2. Person you admire the most.....Frank Zappa. Need I say More?

3. Last book read.....Working on several.

4. Favorite line from a movie.....There's not really that many that I've found outstanding these days...yet!

5. Question you would like to have seen on this page.....Are you afraid of the Paparazzi?

6. Cree of the year.....Who was the funniest again?

7. Who would play you in a movie? Rudolph Valentino, that's me on coffee! Lot's of dramatic jerky motions.

8. 2nd favorite magazine.....The Nation, sorry boys and girls.

9. Choice for honorary Cree.....Lucien Bouchard or Preston Manning. Let them bring their patriotism to ours shores. Vive la Eeyou Astchee Libre!

10. What do you consider your greatest achievement? Making it to at least one of the Grateful Dead concerts.

11. Greatest fear.....Myself.

12. If you could clone anything and everything what would it be? Myself, what else.

14. Story of the year.....No comment.

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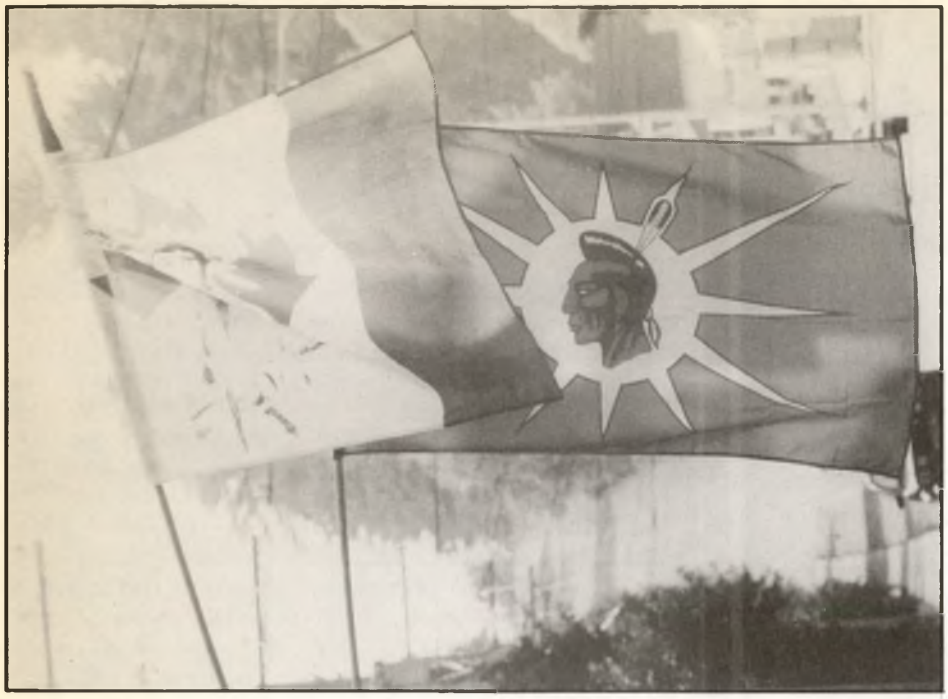

Blockade season on it's way?

Long Lake Forest Products Company operations in Nakina, Ontario was shut down March 5 when the Aroland, Eabametoong and Martin Falls First Nations set up the first Native blockade of the season. The blockade came after a band meeting in which locals asked the chiefs and councils what was happening with the negotiations with the forestry company. Band officials told them the 2 1/2-year-old negotiations were at an impasse.

Aroland band councilor Sonny Gagnon said the people then told the chiefs, "it's our turn to do something." "The road blockade was community driven, the chiefs and council didn't decide to do this. It was the people," Gagnon said, adding that the only vehicles stopped were forestry vehicles while everyone else was allowed to go through.

"It was like a 100 trucks used to go by in a day, then nothing," said Gagnon.

It was a turning point for the bands, which started receiving calls from "everyone," including the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. A meeting was called in which ministry officials attended and an interim agreement was reached; Long Lake Forest Products Company would stop all harvesting and road construction in two contested areas in order to provide a more conducive atmosphere for a long-term agreement. In return, the three bands have agreed to allow logging trucks in to pick up the trees that have already been cut. "We don't want them to rot, it would be a waste," said Gagnon.

Gagnon points out that the three bands were never opposed forestry operations, but that the Bands want a say in the management of the forest, a land-use plan, protection of traditional areas and First Nation values, meaningful consultation, environmental assessments and employment. They say First Nations have to be involved in a greater capacity than employment and economic development in the forest in order to secure a future for the youth.

Long Lake Forest Products Company and the three bands had almost reached an agreement last September, but top officials at Long Lake Forest Products refused to honor their negotiator's concessions. Long Lake Forest Products Company had outlined its commitments to First Nations in its license application, saying the First Nations would benefit from a Native recruitment plan, training and development and a First Nations business development plan.

Negotiations have already cost the Aroland Band an estimated $300,000, said Gagnon. April 12 has been set as the negotiating deadline to reach an Agreement between the three First Nations and Long Lake Forest Products Company.

"This isn't over," said Gagnon. "We still have to reach an understanding and agreement with the province."

By William Nicholls

Early spring greets native blockades

A second Native road blockade of the spring began Monday, March 16 in Temagami, Ontario, this time conducted by the Teme-Augama Anishnabai and Temagami First Nation. The beginning of the blockade has consisted of stopping vehicles and handing out pamphlets that explain the land drivers are traveling across is Aboriginal owned. Drivers were also told that a band-issued permit will be required in the future. Chief Doug McKenzie of Teme-Augama Anishnabai also said that in the spring cottagers and tourists will have to buy a permit. The price is still undecided.

A Teme Augama Anishnabai member (who didn't want to be named) said, "The government is taking their time and some action has to be done to get them to deal with us. I think it's about time we did something."

Temagami First Nation Chief Jim Twain said they are tired of Ontario Premier Mike Harris reneging on promises to negotiate land rights and the Band has run out of patience. Premier Harris seems to "have a low opinion of Indians and his government reflects that," said Twain, condemning the Ontario government for its inaction.

"All we want at this point is for Harris to mandate his bureaucrats to deal with us," said Twain. "What happens from there is yet to be determined."

The bands say the dispute with Ontario extends back to the late 1800's when they approached Indian Affairs for a treaty and reserve. A hundred-square-mile reserve was surveyed for them. The federal government and Temagami representatives started asking the Ontario government to give over the land surveyed.

The federal government gave up pressuring Ontario in 1971 and created the Bear Island reserve. It is exactly 100 times smaller - a mere 1 square mile.

Temagami First Nations never gave up the fight to get what they felt was rightfully theirs. They thought they had finally reached the light at the end of the tunnel in 1990

Con'td on page 9

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES CREE INDIAN CENTRE OF CHIBOUGAMAU

1. Interim Executive Director

The Executive Director, under the supervision of the Board of Directors, must see to the general administration as well as the management of human and financial resources of the Cree Indian Centre, respecting the spirit of the Friendship Centre movement.

Duties:

- Administer and coordinate the Centre's Programmes.
- Prepare projects, budgets, reports, applications and presentations.
- Supervise and motivate the Centre's staff members.
- Maintain good communications and relationships with Natives and non-Natives in and around Chibougamau.
- etc.

2. Local Development Agent

The Local Development Agent, under the supervision of the Executive Director, must evaluate the Centre's client needs in order to prepare and implement a development plan for the Centre.

Duties:

- Prepare a profile of the Centre.
- Prepare a strategy for the development of the Centre and the community it serves.
- Participate in the planning, development and follow-up of the Centre's development projects.
- Develop, consolidate and maintain relationships between the Centre and its socio-economic partners.
- etc.

Priority will be given to Aboriginal candidates
Both positions are contractual

Deadline: April 16th 1999

More detailed information may be obtained either by fax or by mail

Applications or requests for further information should be addressed to:

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Cree Indian Centre of Chibougamau Inc.
95 Jaculet, Chibougamau, QC. G8P 2G1

Tel: (418)748-7667 **Fax: (418)748-6954**

To whom it may concern:

Subject: Allegations of bribery as a possible basis for election fraud

This matter was brought to my attention through rumors following the recent election, held Feb. 22, 1999 and later when I was provided with a copy of the contestation which eventually found its way onto my desk. In his letter dated March 5, 1999, which I was provided a copy, the returning officer detailed his reasoning for denying the contestation, however as I believe, my reputation has been called into question by my accusers. I cannot allow this to go on without appropriate response.

Considering the multitude of events, both personal from an emotional point of view of the community issues being discussed prior to the election, it is my understanding the issues could be this construed and misunderstood.

However, after having spent well over 20 years within the political confines of the Cree nation, more particularly working towards the positive development of our own community, Nemaska, I wish to state clearly and without exception that I have never taken or tried to "bribe" anyone to advance my political career, and I do not plan to do so at any time in the future. My reputation is more valuable to me than that of the simple career of working on your behalf.

According to the charges put to the returning officer, I was accused of buying an individual's vote by allowing them to charge food costs and credit to my account at the Nemaska general store.

To be accused of such an allegation by fellow candidate(s) for the position of chief, demonstrates their immaturity in their knowledge and experience with the law. Unfounded allegations which are merely based on rumour are inadmissible in a court of law, and as the rumor also was due to a direct breach of confidentiality from the clerk at the Nemaska First Nation general store, it is also unethical.

I consider this a direct invasion of my privacy.

To clear up this negative gossip, and to allow all the relevant facts to become public, I would like to present the facts of the matter.

On February 10, 1999 one of our most respected elders died in the hospital in Val d'Or and a funeral was held on February 12, 1999. Out of respect, and as an act of compassion, the election process was postponed to a later date.

The elder who died was the father of my late wife (deceased 1980), therefore he was my father-in-law. One of my sisters-in-law is the guardian of my son (he has lived with her since he was less than one year old and continues to do so).

When an unfortunate event happens in a small community, like a death with a funeral to follow, it is not uncommon for community and family members to pull together to help the surviving family members through their period of grief and to assure them through thoughts and deeds that they are not alone.

There are usually many visitors who come to express their support and with the demands of feeding and housing such visitors, the burden can become quite overwhelming. Many times, community members alleviate this situation by preparing food for the family. This was demonstrated on several occasions, not the least of which was when another respected elder passed away just two weeks

Cont'd on page 29

"OUR LIFE, OUR WORK, OUR HERITAGE"

Motto of the La Coalition sur les forets vierges nordiques

Not only the Crees are worried about forestry activities in the Cree territory but also a powerful coalition in Quebec recently announced they want changes to the forestry operations in the area. La Coalition sur les forets vierges nordiques is taking the Quebec government to task over the issue saying the forests in the Cree territory are fragile. The fragility of the northern forests is an ecology based on fire, wind, insects, a short growing season and the fact they are built on permafrost shows regeneration is difficult. "Are we being careful, the evidence says no," said President Harvey Mead of L'Union quebecoise pour la conservation de la nature, who is heading up the coalition.

The first demand of the coalition is an independent public inquiry would be set up to look at forestry operations in Quebec. "We want something where it is recognized public participation is needed," said Mead. The inquiry would look at forest management practices, working condition is the woods, forestry practices and the underpinning assumptions on which harvest quotas are calculated.

"We have to take a serious look at these things, we don't know how fragile northern virgin forest are. Are we being careful enough? The evidence to date says no," said Mead. Mead would expect the inquiry to take a couple of years to study Quebec's forestry policy and practices.

Among their list of demands is a moratorium on the issuing of CAAF permits. These are the permits which allot tree-cutting rights in different areas to forestry companies. Currently two thirds of the annual forest cut is conducted in the forests of Abitibi, Northern Quebec, the Saguenay, Lac St. Jean and the North Shore. The Coalition says there is a danger Quebec could be killing the northern forests.

They say they would like to see areas in Quebec set aside as parks, which would double as control areas in studies.

The coalition is also asking questions on what impacts forestry operations has on the First Nations peoples in the affected areas. They want to know how it affects the Native way of life. The coalition says they are aware that traditional ways of life such as hunting, fishing and trapping are affected. They demand the government define a forestry policy that respects the expectations, needs and way of life of indigenous communities.

Another risk is the Caribou de bois according to the coalition. These caribou are distinct from the great caribou herds who live in the northern tundra and timber cuts have reached the areas where the last of these woods herds live. The timber cuts allow sports hunters greater access and the woods caribou are particularly vulnerable according to the coalition. They are asking for protection of these herds.

The coalition denounces the Quebec decision to give a larger say to forest industry representatives in the management of public forests.

The Grand Council of the Crees are part of the coalition along with L'Assmblee des évélles du Quebec, La Federation des producteurs de bois du Quebec, La Federation des trvailleurs et des travailleuse du papier et de la foret (CSN), Le Reseau des groupes ecologistes du Quebec, Le Syndicat canadien des communications de l'energie et du papier (FTQ), Le Syndicat de la fonction publique du Quebec, Le Syndicat des professionnels et des professionnelles du government fi Quebec and L'Union quebecoise pour la conservation de la nature (UQCN) representing over 200,000 Quebecers.

by Will Nicholls

NEWS

CHISASIBI HOSTS ICE SHOW

The Chisasibi Skating Club is busy planning its second annual ice show for April 19 and 20. Apart from performances by the club's own members, Chisasibi will also play host to Josef Sabovcik, who got medals in skating at the Olympics and World Championships.

"They call him the jumping machine," said Rhonda Spencer, the club's coach. "He's an amazing jumper."

Also scheduled: a skating pair from the U.S. Spencer said the pair will probably be Anita Hearthorn and Frank Sweiding, who were world-class pair champions several times over. "They've got lots of tricks," said Spencer. "Things that'll make people scream."

Well-known Canadian skater Elizabeth Manley, who was a crowd favourite at last year's show, was supposed to show up again but cancelled at the last minute due to another engagement she couldn't get out of.

The skating club, now in its third season, just keeps on getting more successful, according to Spencer. From 120 members last year, it has grown to 170 today - most of them kids. Spencer said she couldn't tell us what they'll be doing at this year's ice show. "Oh, I can't give that out now," she laughed. "That has to be a surprise. They don't even know until next week."

Spencer said only that it has something to do with animals. Be prepared to see skating crocodiles, tigers, lions and elephants. Prices: $10 for adults, $5 for kids.

Info: (819) 855-3008

Mistissini Police rack up another drug bust

Mistissini Police charged a 40 year-old Ille-St-Perot man with trafficking and possession for the purpose of trafficking. Chief Constable Michael Petawabano confirmed the man came into the community to sell drugs and local residents tipped the police off. Petawabano says a rough estimate of the street value of the marijuana and cocaine in the man's possession was about $2-3,000. The Ille-St-Perot Man is currently incarcerated in Amos awaiting trail.

Calling all Smokers...

What Stage Are You At?

1• **I am not thinking** about quitting, certainly not in the next six months.
2• **I'm thinking** about quitting someday, but not right now.
3• **I want to quit** within the next four weeks, and I want to know more about how to do it.
4• **I have just quit** and am having withdrawal symptoms.
5• **I have quit** smoking and I want to know more about staying that way.

Stage 3

I'm Getting Ready to Quit

Planning to quit takes time & effort, but remember: you're worth it! Here are some steps to help you succeed:
Look at your past attempts. Most smokers don't quit the first time they try, or even the third or fourth time. If you've tried to quit before, take a look at what happened. Think about why & how you started smoking again; it may help you figure out how to be more successful next time.

Decide on a Quit Date

Choose a day a week or two from now, at a time that will be relatively free of stress, & when your regular routine allows you to put time and effort into stopping smoking.

Know when & why you smoke

Keep track of your smoking. Make a smoking diary & fill it in for every cigarette you smoke over the next two or three days. For each cigarette, record the time of day, what you are doing, where you are & why you are smoking.
This diary can help you figure out what triggers you to smoke. These are the places, people, moods & activities that give you the urge to smoke. Some common triggers include drinking coffee or alcohol, the end of mealtimes, emotional stress, others smoking, & the fear of weight gain.

Plan to handle the side effects of quitting

After you quit smoking, you will feel nicotine withdrawal. Signs of withdrawal are usually at their worst during the first three or four days. These symptoms are caused by the sudden lack of nicotine in your body, & can make you feel anxious, irritable, hungry, & restless. You may have difficulty concentrating, severe cravings, & headaches. Try to remember that your body is beginning to heal.
Nicotine replacement therapy, like the patch or nicotine gum, can help you deal with the physical addiction. It isn't a miracle cure. It works best if you also plan to use it along with other supports for your new non-smoking life. Once you've got the other areas under control, then you can reduce & eventually stop the nicotine replacement therapy.

How to Deal With Cravings

- **Do Something Else**. To take your mind off smoking, get out of the situation.
- **Delay.** Wait five minutes after the urge hits before you consider smoking. By then, the urge will be gone.
- **Deep Breathing.** Relax. Breathe deeply, stretch, listen to music, talk to someone who's a good listener. Feel good about yourself.
- **Drink Water.** Sip slowly. Think about how pure and refreshing it feels.

Stage Four

I'm Quitting

Once your quit date arrives, be proud! Your goal is to keep yourself busy & feeling good without a cigarette. For the first few weeks, treat every day as if it is your quit day.
Reward yourself all along the way, especially for the first two weeks of not smoking.. Rewards should be enjoyable & easy. They don't have to be expensive, but you could use money you have saved by not smoking to get yourself something special. After what you've accomplished, you deserve it!

Stage Five

I'm Smoke Free, & I Want To Stay That Way

The challenge is to stay quit. For most people, it takes a while before they FEEL like non-smokers. It gets easier as time goes on. The physical addiction will fade, you will get better at coping with cravings, the urge to smoke will get weaker, & slowly you will begin to see yourself as a non-smoker. To remain a non-smoker for good, you need to remember three things:

- Your reasons for quitting. Most important, you're not doing this alone. Your family & loved ones support you. Make your home smoke free, so that you will all be healthier now and in the future.
- Your old smoking habits are still part of you. Don't forget how strong they can be in some situations.
- A slip (puffing on a cigarette) does NOT make you a smoker again. It's smoking the next ones that cause trouble. Look at a slip as a warning that you need a way to handle that kind of situation. Learn from it so it won't happen again.

Your job is to manage the stress that smoking used to help you cope with & also manage the stress of quitting smoking.
Take it One Day at a Time.Limit Caffeine.
Relax. Get Active.

Conseil Cri de la santé et des services sociaux de la Baie James
ᓂᑐᐃᓱᒃ ᑲᔪ ᐃᒋᐦᐃ ᐊᐃᒃ ᐊᓇᓇᑭᑕᑲᓂᐅᑦ
Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

Believe in yourself & take control!

Cont'd from page 5

when the Ontario government offered an agreement in principle. Among the terms Ontario then offered was 115 square miles of reserve land and joint stewardship of resource and land management, with the Teme-Augama Anishnabai holding veto power. But Temagami First Nation refused to sign the deal, saying the two weeks they had to consider the offer was too short. "We couldn't know what we were getting or giving up in that time period," explained Twain.

Later the Temagami First Nation and Teme-Augama Anishnabai sent the same offer back with minor changes, but the government had changed and newly elected Ontario Premier Harris withdrew the offer in 1995. Since then the Teme-Augama Anishnabai, Temagami First Nation and the Ontario government have been in and out of court.

Meanwhile, the Ontario government has told the band that the recreational hunt camp permits could become patents if the holders wished to purchase them. This has Twain upset. "They're willing to deal with them but not us. You have to ask yourself why," said Twain.

- Will Nicholls

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Coming to you live!
Linking the 9 communities!
More Cree programming!
Access to Southern radio!

The James Bay Cree Communications Society's New Regional Network Coming Soon!

ᐃᑯᑦ ᑲ ᐅᐦᑭ ᒧᐸᑲᐦᑎᐸᐦᑎᑦᑯᐦ.

A Reason To Celebrate!

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ᑭᐠ ᒪᐢ ᐧᓯᐃᑦ ᑎᒧ. ᐠ ᑭᓂᐢᐱᐢᑕᑯᐦᑦ ᐠ ᐱᒥᐢᑦᑕᑦ ᐊᓂᑕ

418-923-3191

For more information, contact:
Thomas Jolly, President of JBCCS
or Lloyd Cheechoo,
Executive Director of JBCCS

Telephone: 418-923-3191 Fax: 418-923-2088

C.N.I.T. Tournament Val d'Or

March 3-7 1999

Sonya Mianscum
Novice Broomball
Waswanipi

The Cree tournament of the year!!! 88 teams!!! From 11 different communities, approximately 1,000 young boys and girls gathered in Val d'Or for all kinds of reasons: to play their games, for fun, to compete for gold, for silver, for bronze. To meet friends, old ones, make new friends. To share laughs, to go "cruising," to shop and more.

But hey!!! First of all, congratulations goes to all organizers of this tournament! You do a gigantic job in entertaining all our young athletes. They definitely all had fun. From all these young athletes many thanks goes to your parents who supported each one of you in many ways.

Let me share with you my favorite highlight of the tournament: his name is Cody Small. He played in the novice hockey competition with the Moosonee Flyers. As we were watching in, dreaming "live" on ice No. 1, here's what little Cody gave my husband and I what I will call here "a gift."

This talented little guy stands there on the ice wearing No. 99 and of course he knows the ever attached to this particular sweater Number. The referee whistles, the play stops, Cody stands they are at the blue line, ready, he takes a few seconds to adjust his No. 99 sweater. Lifting up the left side and tucking it inside his hockey pants, just like the "great one" wears it. The puck is dropped, Moosonee wins the faceoff, the player passes the puck to Cody at the blue line. That goalie makes the save... Rebound... And scores!!! Yeah!!!

As we were sitting there cheering for that boy who prepared that goal, cheering for Cody, just thrilled about the whole play. No! I believe we were just sitting there moved for having witnessed one of the great highlights of hockey right here at C.N. I. T. tournament on ice #1.

Well, wherever you are Cody, thanks for the great moment.

And they were other great moments, plenty of them, some funny, some sad, and I know you readers must have a story to tell, at least one per family. That's what makes it worth the trip, the gathering, the spending [$], the sleepless weekend. The pride each parent feels towards each son/daughter... For little Billy-Boy... For little tireless Edna-Rose... For that cute beginner who refused to play without his "Jo Jo"... For Jeremiah... For "Blondie" Atsynia... For my son... And, well... Why don't I show some of them to you... Some of "our stars" of the C.N.I.T. tournament!!! [Hey! By the way, did anyone happen to tape the final midget hockey game? If yes, please call me at (819) 855-2608, as I would like to see my son Charly... Thanks!]

That's Hockey for now!

Dolores Audet-Washipabano

On the Cover:

Scot Atsynia: atom, Wemindji, nine years old.

Rosie Neeposh: novice, broomball, Waswanipi.

Jeremiah Coon Come: novice competition, Mistissini, center, No. 5.

Steve Moar: novice competitive, Chisasibi.

Sheldon Snowboy: atom competitive hockey, Chisasibi.

Billy Ottereyes: novice competitive: Chisasibi Li'l Hunters.

Justin Morrison: Moosonee Great North Winterhawks.

John Napash: novice competitive, Chisasibi.

Glorianna Neeposh: Cadet broomball, Waswanipi.

Cody Small: novice competitive, Moosonee Flyers.

Josephine Louttit: Pre — novice recreational, Chisasibi.

Darren Matthew: Pre — novice competitive hockey, Chisasibi.

William Matthew
Atom Recreational
Chisasibi

Amy Linton
Midget Broomball
Mistissini

Angela Linton
Midget Broomball
Mistissini

Hockey Category

Pre-Novice Recreational
Championship: Lac Simon 5 Wemindji 2
Gold: Chisasibi 3 Mistissini 1
Pre-Novice Competition
Championship: Waskaganish 1 Mistissini 0
Novice Hockey Recreational
Championship: Moosonee 8 Chisasibi 4
Atom Hockey Recreational
Championship: Lac Simon 5 Moosonee 3
Cilver: Chisasibi 5 Mistissini 4
Atom Hockey Competition
Championship: Moose Factory 3 Waskaganish 0
Pee Wee Hockey
silver: Chisasibi 6 Lac Simon 5
Bantam Hockey
Championship: Waskaganish 6 Chisasibi 4
Gold: Lac Simon 3 Waswanipi 2
Silver: Mistissini 3 Wemindji 0
Midget Hockey
Championship: Waskaganish 2 Mistissini 1 0.T.
Gold: Lac Simon 3 Waswanipi 2
Silver: Ouje-Bougoumou 3 Eastmain 0

Broomball Category

Benjamin broomball
Championship: Waskaganish 3 Chisasibi 1
Gold: Lac Simon 0 Waswanipi 0
Silver: Wemindji 1 Kitcisakik 0

Novice broomball
Championship: Lac Simon 4 Chisasibi 0
Gold: Waswanipi 1 Waskaganish 0
Silver: Wemindji 2 Kitcisakik 0

Cadets Broomball
Championship: Waswanipi 1 Chisasibi 0
Gold: Waskaganish 2 Wemindji 1
Silver: Lac Simon 4 Mistissini 1
Bronze: Kitcisakik 3 Ouje-Bougoumou 0

Midget broomball
Championship: Mistissini 2 Waskaganish 1 O.T.
Gold: Nemaska 1 Mistissini 0
Silver: Chisasibi 1 Lac Simon 0
Bronze: Kitcisakik 2 Wemindji 1

Juvenile broomball
Championship: Mistissini 3 Chisasibi 0
Gold: Wemindji 1 Waswanipi 0
Silver: Kitcisakik 3 Nemaska 2

Vern Cooper
Novice Competitive
Waswanipi

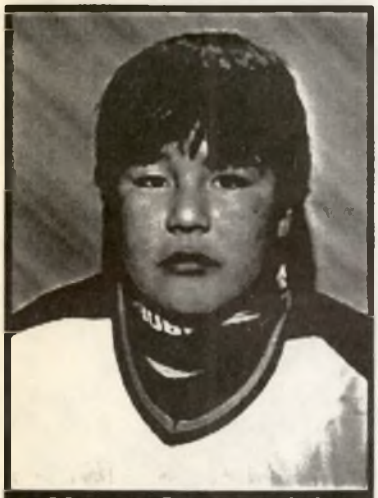
More on Page 12

C.N.I.T. TOURNAMENT

Billy "Boy" Scipio
Pre-novice Recreational
Chisasibi

Edna-Rose Matthew
Benjamin BB
Chisasibi

Cicely Trapper
Novice Broomball
Waskaganish



Moses Chiskamish
Atom Recreational
Chisasibi

Solomon Bobbish
Novice Competitive
Chisasibi

Lucien Matches
Novice Competitive
Chisasibi

Preston House
Pre-novice Recreational
Chisasibi

Reginald Blackned
Novice C
Waskaganish

NUNAVUT

On April 1, 1999,
a new territory will be born.
Nunavut

Nunavut, "our land" in Inuktitut, is the traditional land of the Inuit in Canada's eastern Arctic. This fifth of Canada's land-mass is home to a young and dynamic population of about 25,000.

Nunavut faces formidable challenges, but it also holds great promise for its people. Northerners have always demonstrated resourcefulness, ingenuity and adaptability. The new Government of Nunavut will reflect this in a partnership that incorporates the best of traditional Inuit values and contemporary systems.

Canada – built through cooperation, an evolving democracy and a tradition of peace – continues to grow with the birth of this new and unique territory, Nunavut.

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Canada

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C.N.I.T. Tournament

Annie Sealhunter
Juvenile Broomball
Chisasibi

Alice Matthew
Midget Broomball
Chisasibi

Washaw Sibi Eeyou Association Second Annual Native Senior Hockey and Broomball Tournament
Val d'Or, Quebec
April 1,2,3,4 1999

Deadline for registration: Friday March 23 1999, 6 p.m.

Hockey: class A, B, C, old timers (40 and over)
Broomball: class A, B, old timers (30 and over)
For more information please call (819) 732-9409
For BroomBall: Lynda Trapper
For hockey: Oscar Kistabish or Jimmy R. Trapper

Archie Moar Jr.
Bantam Hockey
Chisasibi

Evander House
Novice Recreational
Chisasibi

Gina S. Visitor
Pre-novice Recreational Hockey
Chisasibi

Survey

The CNIT Tournament can only get better and better. Do you want to help CNIT organizers prepare for year 2000 edition? Please fill out the survey and send it back by mail or fax to The Nation: 514 278 9914. The organizing committee will be glad to consider your comments.

1. Dates of CNIT tournament?
Same dates:_____
Other dates:_____

2. In which city?
Val d'Or:___
Rouyn:___
Other:_____

3. What did you think about the treatment you received in Val d'Or?
1 [excellent], 2 [very good], 3 [good], 4 [poor], 5 [very poor]
Hotels:___
Restaurants:___
Taxis:___
Stores:___
Others:[specify]_____

4. What we do like to see concerning categories? [Novice, atom, Pee Wee, etc.]
Same categories:_____
Decrease categories:____
Which categories:_____
Add new categories:___
Which categories:_____
Different formula, please elaborate:

5. Overall comments on the CNIT tournament.

Thank you.Mail to: Beesum Communications 5505 St-Laurent #3018 Montreal Qc. H2T 1S6

the Nation

Head Designer

Beesum Communications, which publishes The Nation, as well as providing print communications to a wide range of clients, is looking for a Head Designer with **2-3 years experience in print design.**

This is a full-time position, with the possibility of paid overtime on occasion. Main duties involve providing concept and design of print projects, while supervising and delegating appropriate tasks to our junior designer. The perfect person for this position enjoys the challenge of working on several projects at one time at a fairly fast pace.

If you match the above description and have mastered QuarkXpress, photoshop, illustrator and know how to prepare documents of all sizes for pre-press in black & white, full or spot colour, you may be the person we need. If you also have multimedia skills, are fluent in Pagemaker and are bilingual, then you have a definite advantage.

Beesum Communications offers a relaxed environment and a young dynamic team of professionals in the field of communications. We offer a competitive starting salary of $31,200 as well as paid vacations and other benefits.

Those interested should forward their C.V.'s and salary expectations to:

rsherwood@beesum-communications.com
before March 31, 1999.

Those selected for an interview will be required to present a portfolio.

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For More Information: Native Studies, Trent University, Peterborough Ont. K9H 7B8, Phone: 705 748 1466 http:/ivory.trentu.ca/www/ns/

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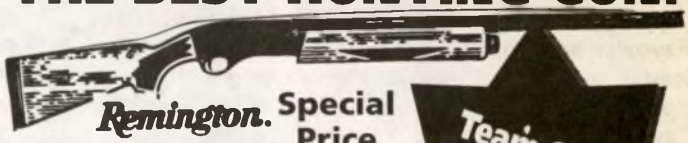

Remington. **Special Price**
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Team Shirts and Jackets available!

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NEW

Welcome! Bienvenue!

Have your favorite caps and coffee cup printed in store

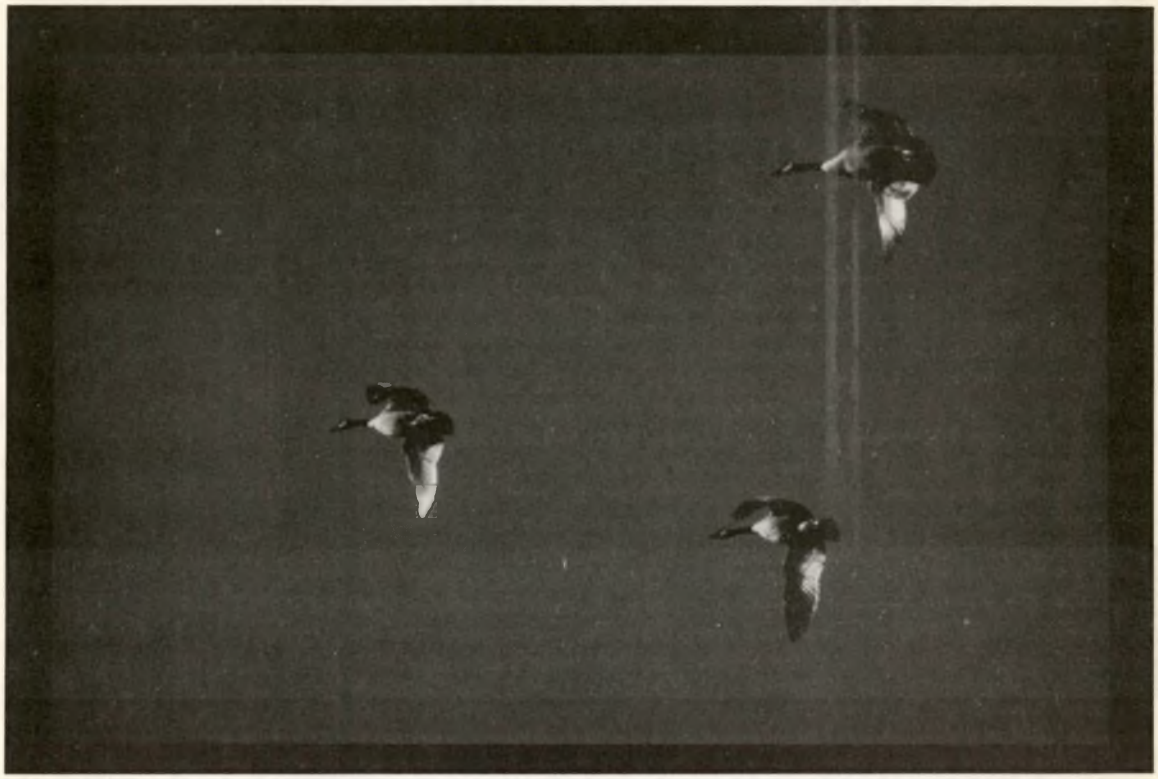
When winter comes, when James Bay freezes, when Zamboni's get tuned up, when there's enough snow on the ground... Well, if you are looking for Charles J. Hester, look for him in an arena, in the stands or in a dressing room or... Just look for him having fun with his four sons on an outdoor rink in the backyard of his house in Waskaganish. You'll find a dedicated father sharing his sons' dreams of playing in the big leagues! If you sit with Charles Hester, you'll find someone who will tell you all about his sons... His pride... He will tell you all about their best moments... Which makes him... A DEDICATED FATHER! Here's Charles J. Hester's pride.

Hockey Player Profile
Name: Trevor Hester
Date of birth: January 16, 1997
Height: 2 ft. 2 in.
Weight: 37 pounds
Position: Everywhere
Education: staying home with the baby sitter.
Favorite music: Barney and friends
Favorite animal: puppies
Favorite wild food: toast
Sports idol: Kurt Hester
Favorite hockey club: the Mighty Ducks and Montreal
Where did you play hockey in 1997/98?: My backyard and the Waskaganish Arena.
Favorite sport besides hockey: basketball

Hockey Player Profile
Name: Alexander Hester
Date of birth: January 5, 1995
Height: 3 ft. 5 in.
Weight: 45 pounds
Position: Left-wing
Education: preschooler
Favorite music: Backstreet Boys
Favorite animal: Puppies
Favorite wild food: Goose
Sports idol: Eric Lindros
Favorite hockey club: Mighty Ducks
Where did you play hockey in 1997/98: Waskaganish local tournament: Pre—novice and Novice.
Favorite sport besides hockey: baseball
Best hockey memory: learning how to skate in my backyard.
What do you want to be in life: Zamboni Driver
Tell us about one of your dreams: to build a house all by myself.

Hockey Player Profile
Name: Brett Hester
Date of birth: July 30, 1993
Height: 3ft. 9 1/2 in.
Weight: 54 pounds
Position: Center
Education: kindergarten
Favorite music: My dad, Charles J. Hester
Favorite animal: Lion
Favorite wild food: rabbit with dumplings
Sports idol: Sergei Fedorov No. 91
Favorite hockey club: Detroit Red Wings
Where did you play hockey in 1997/98: Chisasibi: Pre — novice, Mistissini: Pre — novice, Waskaganish: novice.
Favorite sport besides hockey: basketball
Best hockey memory: when we were champions in Chisasibi 1998, Mistissini 1998, Chisasibi 1999 and finalists in Rouyn.
What do you want to be in life: I want to play for the Detroit Red Wings.
Tell us about one of your dreams: I want to play in the big leagues and bring home a trophy for grandpa.

Hockey Player Profile
Name: Kurt Hester
Date of birth: May 30, 1991
Height: 4 ft. 2 3/4 in.
Weight: 73 pounds
Position: defense
Education: grade 2
Favorite music: N'Sync
Favorite animal: Tiger
Favorite wild food: rabbit with dumplings
Sports idol: Ryan Weistche
Favorite hockey club: Val d'Or
Where did you play hockey in 1997/98: Rouyn: Pre—novice, Waskaganish: Pre—novice, Chisasibi: Pre—novice, Mistissini: Pre—novice, Waskaganish: Novice.
Favorite sport besides hockey: basketball
Best hockey memory: when I won MVP and best defense in the Mistissini minor tournament 1998.
What do you want to be in life: I want to play in the NHL.
Tell us about one of your dreams: to play AAA hockey, if I can be an NHL player. I will be a cop in my community.



Get ready to exercise your rights!

Cree hunting strengthens Cree rights!

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Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Astchee)
Grand Conseil des Cris (Eeyou Astchee)

ᐊᐢᐢᐤ ᑕᓀᐦᑎᒪᔭᐌᐣ
Cree Regional Authority
Administration Régionale Crie

ᓇᓱᓐ ᑲ ᓇᑎᓂᑦ ᑲ ᒥᔨᒋᓐᓇᕐᓂᒃ ᐃᓕᓴᕐᓂ

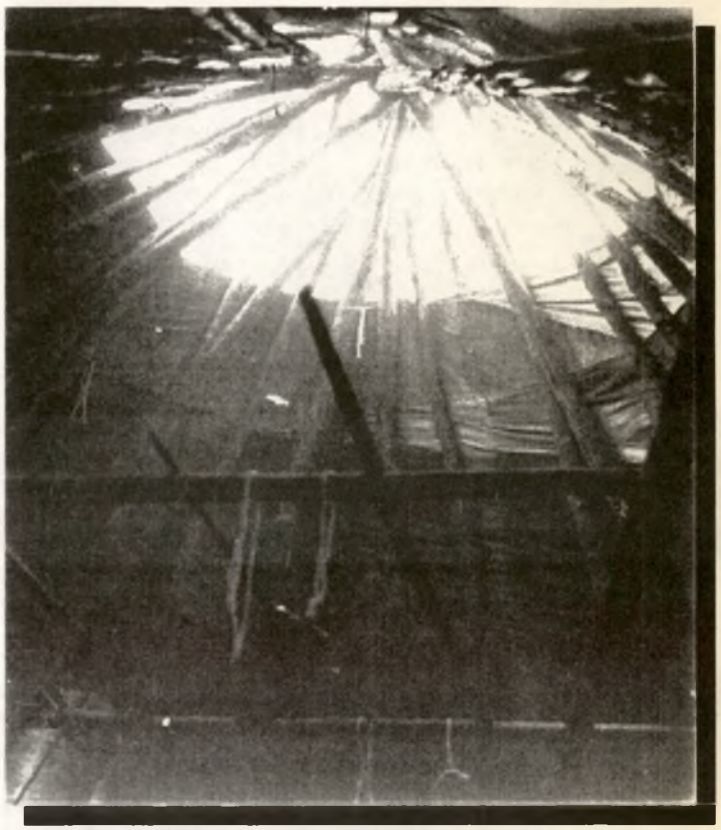
ᐊᐱᖏᓪᓗᒡ ᒪᒥᔅᓴᓐᓄᑦᑐᒡ ᐊᑎ ᐊᑎᓵᖅᓂᒃ

ᓂᒧᐃᐅ ᓇᐅᓐ ᑎᓯᕈᒪᕆᓇ ᐊᑦ ᐊᐊᑦ ᑲ ᑎᓯᕈᒥᑦ, ᐊᓐᓄᑦ ᑭᓯ ᐊᑎᓵᖅᓱᒃᑐᓴ. ᓇᓯᓐ ᑭᓯ ᐊᓂᑕ ᐊᑲ ᐅᖏᑎ ᐃᐅᑦ. ᐊᑎ ᐱᒧᖏᑕ ᐊᑲ ᑲ ᓂᓂᑐᖏᓴᕐ, ᒥᓄ ᓂᒥ ᒥᔅᓴᓐᓄ ᐊᓂᓐ ᐊ ᐱᓐᔨᑎᓇᓴᕐ. ᐊᐱᒪᒃᑲ ᐊᓂᑕ ᓇᓯᓐ ᐊ ᓂᓂᑐᖏᓴᕐᓄᓪᓗ ᒪᒃᓱ ᐊ ᔨᑦᑎᓴᕐᓄᓪ. ᐊᐢᓱᒃᑲᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᓂᑕ ᐊᓂᓐ ᐊᑲᓐᓂᑦᑐᖅᓱᒃᑲᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ. ᐃᐅᑦᓯᔨᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᓂᑕ ᐊᑲᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᑲᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᑦ ᐊᑲᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᓂᑕ ᐊᑲᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᑲᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ ᐊᑲᓐᓇᖅᑐᑦ

Voices of the Elders:

THE MAN AND THE GIANTESS

As told by Abraham Mamianskum



There was once a man who didn't have a wife. This man walked around hunting for game. He climbed a small hill and saw another man standing in the distance urinating. The bachelor thought, "I'll tease him." So, he took his bow and arrow and shot at the man who was urinating. He wasn't directly aiming for him because he didn't want to harm him.

The man who shot the arrow went over to where the man was to meet him. But the man lay dead on the ground. He had killed him. His arrow had hit the man's penis. Of course, this man who wanted to play a joke on the urinating man was very sorry because he had accidentally killed him.

A short while later while he was standing there by the dead man's body, he saw a giantess walking towards him. The giantess spoke to him, "You will live with me because I lived with your grandfather who you have killed. It will be your turn to live with me." The man thought, "I cannot live with her because she's a giant." The man had no desire to live with her but the giantess followed him wherever he went.

The man reached his canoe where he had left it and paddled off. The giantess couldn't board the canoe because of her size. She followed him along the shore. The man thought, "I'll try to lose her." He portaged into the thick bush thinking that he would lose the giantess. Later in the evening, he paddled ashore. The giantess was out of sight. He was alone. He left his belongings at the place where he decided to camp and went off to hunt for beaver. He hadn't built his teepee because he thought that he would make it once he came back from hunting. He set off to hunt for beaver. Of course, he did kill beaver.

When he came back to where he had left his belongings, his teepee was already standing. He saw the giantess, who he had left behind, working around the camp. The lodge was skillfully made. The giantess invited the man to enter the teepee. But the man thought that she wouldn't be able to go in the teepee herself because of how large she was. But she said, "I'll go in too." Right in front of the man's eyes, the giantess changed into the size of an average woman and she entered the teepee.

She treated the man very well. She skinned the beaver and also stretched and dried the beaver skin. She was very quick and efficient in her work. She also made beautifully tailored clothing for him. The man began to like her because of how well she treated him and how well she made the things he used.

The giantess told the man not to tell anyone that she was living with him. She said, "If you tell, I will know and I won't live with you again. We cannot live with other people when I live with you. But if you want to live with the people, you'll go to them alone. You can stay with them for any length of time you wish. And when you leave them, I will come to you again."

Once when the man stayed with a group of people, they asked him if he was living with anyone because his clothing was so beautifully made. He replied, "No, I'm not living with anybody." He didn't want to tell because the giantess had told him not to. But the people kept asking him if he was living with anyone. Finally, he gave in, thinking that the giantess wouldn't know. He told the people that he was living with a woman. The giantess immediately sensed that he had told.

After a while, the man left the camp of the people he had lived with. He thought, "The woman will come back to me again." But she didn't. The man really missed her probably because he loved her so much. He wanted her back. He walked around searching for the giantess but he didn't find her. He became miserable and exhausted looking for her. He started to cry. His clothing ripped as he walked through the bush looking for the giantess.

While the man searched for the giantess, he heard her voice. She said, "Now, do you see what you've gotten yourself into? I told you not to tell, but you did. I cannot not live with you anymore." He looked around but he didn't see her; he just heard her voice. It was said that the giantess never went back to that man again. This is where the legend ends.

Translated and transcribed by Brian Webb.
***Voices of the Elders:* made possible with the assistance of the Canada Council.**

CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES

There are laws for determining child support that:

- Set the basic amount the parent paying child support should pay based on income, the number of children involved and the laws of the province or territory where that parent lives; and
- Make setting the amount of support fair, predictable and consistent for the benefit of children.

For more information about how the child support guidelines apply when both parents live in Quebec, please call:

1-800-363-1363

(Communication-Québec)

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First Cree in Space

The mystery of the NASA presence in the Cree Territory has been solved. Those brilliant minds at NASA have determined that James Bay Crees possess the mentality best suited for long-term space exploration, such as the upcoming Mars mission. It was no accident that NASA ended up in James Bay; it seems that a panel of experts in the fields of psychology and human behavior were brought together to determine if there existed a specific culture or environment which bred the Right Stuff.

First, certain behavioral patterns were targeted for this type of space travel. The panel then starting analyzing cultures to determine if one group produced individuals with this make up. They found that semi-nomadic and food-gathering lifestyles are cultural differences that put Crees far ahead of the other groups. NASA then narrowed the search down to a shortlist of people whom they contacted and conducted interviews with and tests on to determine who would be the chosen Cree to face prolonged space travel. And the winner is.... Leroy DancingMoon.

Although it is not a name that is familiar to most of us, Leroy assured us that he is in fact from the Cree Nation. He said that he asked that his name be chosen traditionally, so the elders came up with the name when he was a teenager. We were curious as to its origin so we asked Leroy if it had anything to do with Michael Jackson dance craze in the 1980s. He responded by removing his pants and jumping around the room yelling, "look at me, look at me."

Leroy would not disclose his real last name to us. According to a NASA spokesperson, they asked for a set of his fingerprints for identification purposes. Apparently, Leroy brought in a set that was later determined to belong to a "business acquaintance" working on the corner of St-Laurent and Ste-Catherine. Needless to say, NASA redid the psychological profile and still concluded that Leroy would be the best candidate for the upcoming space exploration.

Leroy told us that he requested NASA to equip the shuttle with storage space for his snowshoes. NASA responded that he would not need such equipment in space. Leroy responded "Yeah, well which one of you Einsteins has been to Mars before... I didn't think so, pack 'em."

Leroy stated that after that confrontation NASA didn't question him on further requests.

He also decided to bring his 12-guage along. After all, Chikaapaash found good hunting grounds on the moon. Although NASA emphasized that if Leroy encountered other forms of life to make sure that mankind's first meeting is a friendly one. Leroy told us, "Well, after years of eating food that's all mushed up, you bet if I see anything I'm going to be real friendly. I'll have a friendly little feast that is."

Leroy then went on to tell us about some of his training in preparation for space travel. After going into a gravity-free room, I was floating and asked to do things. Leroy said he did excellent on this phase of his training but that it was not his first time with this type of experience. Leroy relates that one time he had to go to an elder in his village to help him and that they traveled out of their bodies in search of something. The Nation asked if he was looking for deep answers to something or looking for himself. Leroy responded, "no, my car keys -I looked everywhere to find them so I turned to a traditional method of solving my problem. It was a good thing too, because when we found the keys, three towns over from my village. No wonder, I couldn't find them because some couple had somehow changed my 1987 Hyundai Pony into the shape of a 1998 Lincoln Navigator. If it wasn't for that elder, those b*stards would still be driving my car today."

Anyone that wants him to take any pictures to send some film to him and he will take some pictures for you of Mars or anywhere else he travels to. He is still trying to figure out how to send them back to you but assures us he will call and let you know when he does. Leroy is also uncertain of his exact address but figures if you put his name on an envelope with NASA, USA your film will get to him eventually.

When asked how he felt about going into deep space, Leroy responded "you know there is still a lot we haven't figured out here on earth and their sending me to another planet ... I think they're just asking for another bucket load of questions and problems to deal with but they're offering to feed me, pay me and give me one hell of a ride, so who am I to complain."

Well Leroy, the whole Cree Nation is behind you, happy hunting and we'll see you in 30 or 40 years when the mission is over. Watchiya.

HUMOUR THAT QUALITY WHICH APPEALS TO A SENSE OF THE LUDICROUS OR ABSURDLY INCONGRUOUS B : THE MENTAL FACULTY OF DISCOVERING, EXPRESSING, OR APPRECIATING THE LUDICROUS OR ABSURDLY INCONGRUOUS C : SOMETHING THAT IS OR IS DESIGNED TO BE COMICAL OR AMUSING

CAUTION

This story is not true. It is only an Aprils Fools Day Joke. Any resembalences to the living or dead are purely coincidental.
We do believe it may be possible for Crees to go into outer space if they wish.
We in no way encourage or condone drugs or mooning. We apologize in advance if you were offended, shocked, dismayed or had any negative emotion.
If you have suffered an outbreak of moral indignation at or as a result of this attempt at humor, we can only offer our humblest apoligies in advance.
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- **TVNC Members and Board of Directors — for being open to the idea of APTN and taking the necessary steps to make it a reality.**
- **TVNC Advisory Group — for their invaluable insight and dedication.**
- **National Aboriginal leadership and the Aboriginal community at large for standing behind us.**
- **All those who supported the initiative in many ways including writing letters of support, positive interventions, program ideas, sharing the news, offering expertise.**

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CREE MAFIA EXPOSED

While an investigation is still ongoing, the joint efforts of local, provincial and federal crime-fighting forces have confirmed the existence of an organized crime network in the Cree territory of James Bay. A spokesman for the task force stated, "We were shocked at the level of activity and the seriousness of the crimes being orchestrated from Cree land." Although no names can be released at this time, it is safe to say that its dark shadow was cast over every community in the Cree Nation. Because the Canadian government was not prepared to tackle an organized network of this magnitude and with international connections, the FBI had to be called in for their expertise.

Although nothing has gone to trial, we managed to ask one of the leaders how this all got started. "Well, one night I was just drinking with some of my friends talking about how cool it would be to start one and the next day we went out and rented every movie we could find on the subject. For example, *Scarface, Goodfellas, The Godfather, Married to the Mob*, you know the classics. It didn't look that hard and what we didn't learn from the movies we figured we didn't need to know. Like all entrepreneurs it was hard getting started but after our first shakedown we were off and running."

Jimmy the Bear, Johnny the Rabbit and Stanley the Porcupine were the mob's henchmen. They were the men who traveled through the communities making the presence of the Cree Mafia felt. A resident from the community of Chisasibi confided in us that when he owed a little money to the outfit, these animals came to collect. "I was lucky to come out of it alive," he said. When the task force tried to apprehend these men, all hell broke loose. A spokesman told us "We knew the Bear would be tough but we were unprepared for what happened when we cornered the Rabbit and the Porcupine...we lost many good agents but we knew we had to take back control of the Cree territory."

The task force didn't get a break until they got one of their own agents into the organization. The agent went by the alias of Sally the Walleye or Sally the Monkey depending on what she was wearing at the time. Sally penetrated the Cree Mafia back in 1996. She slowly made her way to a place where she gained the confidence of the leaders and started collecting evidence. "The easy part was getting them to trust me," Sally told us. "The hard part was getting them to talk about anything besides goose hunting or the Montreal Canadiens."

The task force was able to determine that Cree Mafia activities included narcotics, gambling, prostitution, extortion, bootlegging, smuggling, bookmaking, gun running and illegal bingo games. We salute the efforts of the hard-working men and women that came into our communities to protect us but in all honesty when I awake alone tomorrow I will take a clear, sober look and miss the excitement of bingo games that will be no more.

Freddy the Fox

HUMOUR: NOUN THAT QUALITY WHICH APPEALS TO A SENSE OF THE LUDICROUS OR ABSURDLY INCONGRUOUS B : THE MENTAL FACULTY OF DISCOVERING, EXPRESSING, OR APPRECIATING THE LUDICROUS OR ABSURDLY INCONGRUOUS C : SOMETHING THAT IS OR IS DESIGNED TO BE COMICAL OR AMUSING

APRIL FOOLS DAY SECTION

Don't have a cow, man

Members of the radical group Front du Libération des Animaux swept through a 900-square-mile region of the Abitibi Monday, freeing an estimated 71,000 cows from their human captors.

"These cows are finally free to run wild through the wilderness," said ski-masked FLA member "Jean," loosing a 200-head Guernsey herd from a dairy farm in Seeneterre. "No creature should have to live in servitude to humans."

Within hours of the cows' release, police departments throughout the area began receiving reports of bovine fatalities.

"We've been getting calls all night long," Amos police chief Yves LeBlanc said. "So far, 43 cows have been hit by cars, 11 have fallen off bridges and drowned, and three have been electrocuted from chewing on power lines."

Among the 71,000 freed cows were 450 Jerseys from the Lafreniere Dairy Farm near Val d'Or, liberated by a team of activists in a midnight raid. The cows were loaded onto trucks, then transported 100 miles north and freed in a forest clearing, where, as of press time, all 450 were standing around eating grass.

The long-distance transport of the Lafrniere cows was necessary in light of an event last August, when 80 Milking Shorthorns were released from the Bolton farm in Matagami, only to wander back into their pens the next day, according to the FLA press release.

"It was the greatest thrill of my life to have personally broken the padlock on the gate that cruelly held these cows," FLA member Jacques said. "As long as I live, I'll never forget the lazy, sluggish look in those cows' eyes as I shoved them through the gate with all my might."

Animal activists are hailing the raid as a major victory for cows' rights. "Cows do not belong in dairy farmers' pens. They belong out in the wilderness, where they may run free with the turkeys and wolves," Kirkland Lake PETA spokesperson Linda McCune said. "This raid was an important first step toward returning the proud, majestic cow to its natural environs."

Monday's cow release is the highest-profile raid for the Front du Libération des Animaux since October 1996, when the group released three million chickens into La Verendreye Park

CAUTION

These stories are not true. This is a April Fools Day Joke. Any resemblances to the living or dead are purely coincidental. We in no way wish to encourage or condone narcotics, gambling, prostitution, extortion, bootlegging, smuggling, bookmaking, gun running or organizing your own "Crew".We do not imply that watching *Scarface, Goodfellas, The Godfather* or *Married To The Mob* will in any way induce criminal activity or that they are "classics" of any sort.

We in no way attempt to portray any or all Crees as criminals in any way, shape or form.

We apologize if you were offended, shocked, dismayed or had any negative emotion.

If you have suffered an outbreak of moral indignation at or as a result of this attempt at humor, we can only offer our humblest apologies in advance and request the real Cree mafia break your kneecaps. As for the above story we don't care to apologize to the FLA or PETA. The Nation.

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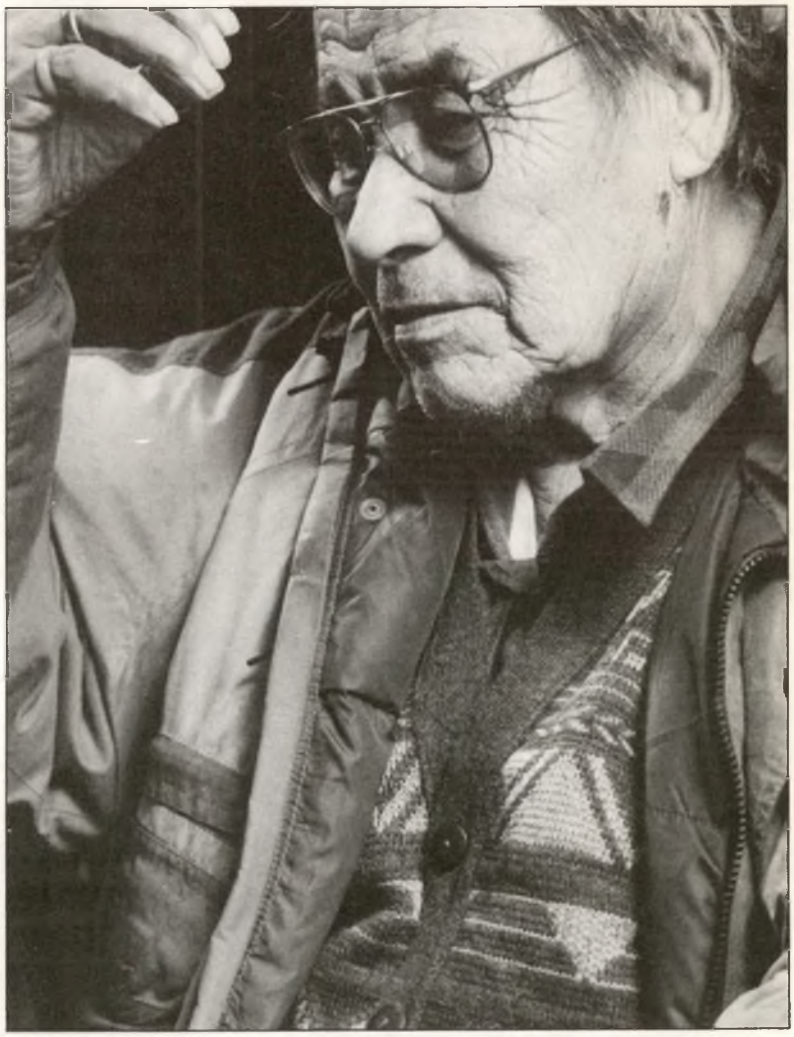

NEIL DIAMOND

I heard the news that one of my grandfathers had passed on. Joseph Rupert was born near Waashtikan north of Fort George. His wife Mary died in 1975, they had two children and adopted one and have 14 grandchildren.

Joseph, like a patient grandfather, always fulfilled the demands that I made of him. Back when I worked in radio, I frequently came into contact with him. Either to record his many stories or just to chat on the radio. He was always ready with a song, story or legend, most of all, laughter always accompanied his stories. The twinkle in his eye transcended the radio. By just listening to him, it was easy to sense the smile on his face. He never complained, when I called him. I consider myself honoured and privileged to have spent some time with him, even if it was just on the phone or in a borrowed camp along the road to shoot a video. I am thankful and humbled for his gifts to me... To all of us.

The tracks he left on the ground may fade, but the gifts... The stories, songs and legends live on. They live on in the recordings that we have made together. His stories come from a time, which is fast becoming a distant memory. Many still remember, but the day is fast approaching when the memories will become stories. To be carried on, whether we remember or not will then be up to us. Perhaps that is why he, like so many other Elders, so freely gave his stories, so we would remember.

I would sometimes pay him a visit with a fresh goose after Goose Break and catch up with him. Sometimes I called just to say hi. On one of my last visits back home, I had spoken with him, I told him I'd go see him the next time I was in town. He replied that he would not be around the next time I came back. Of course I replied that he should not talk that way. We continued talking... As we finished, I told him that if it was true that I would not get to see him, I said that I wanted to express my thanks to him for all the gifts. I told him how much I appreciated all that he has done for me. He just laughed as he always did. I got to say thank you but not good bye.

To the family and friends of Joseph, I send my prayers and condolences.

- Ernest Webb

JOURNEY THROUGH THE NORTH LAND

For a gift recently, I offered to take my Mom and Dad on a trip anywhere in Ontario. To my surprise they did not choose Toronto or Niagara Falls but were set on going to Thunder Bay. My dad Marius and my mom Susan and my friend Mike and I headed out for week-long road tour with no real plans.

Mom and dad entertained us with stories along our way and I was amazed at the number of names of towns, rivers and lakes that they pointed out along our way as Cree or Ojibway words and they translated them for us. For example did you know that the word Opasatika, which is the name of a small town near Kapuskasing, sounds a lot like the Cree word Opas-sa-ti-s-kow which means place of many poplar trees. There were so many places along the way that by name are linked to the time when the Native people roamed freely all over this land. It was a real education and kind of like having two Cree historical databases in the back seat as we drove along the ribbon of pavement that cut through the rugged north country.

Once in Thunder Bay, my parents like all of the Cree people I know, wanted to visit family and friends. Once again I was reminded of the openness, the kindness and the warmth Native people extend in greeting others. I had the good fortune to meet my uncle Gabriel Paulmartin and his creative and spirited wife Merle. Gabriel is originally from Nawashi, which is 120 km north of Attawapiskat. He also lived in Attawapiskat, so there were lots of old times to revisit.

Many people from up the James Bay coast are living in the Thunder Bay area. We were happy to spend some time with Joe Wheesk and his wife and family. Joe, who was born and raised in Attawapiskat now works in Thunder Bay for a prestigious First Nations organization as a researcher. It wasn't long before mom and dad were getting reacquainted with old friends and family like Elizabeth Achneepineskum who is also working for First Nations people.

Perhaps our most rewarding visit occurred when we dropped in to see Mary Rose Paulmartin at a local hospital. Although, she had been ill recently, Mary Rose was excited to see mom and dad. She was also born and raised in Nawashi and lived up the coast for most of her life. Mary Rose is special to my mom and dad and to many people back in Attawapiskat. She had been confined to a wheelchair most of her life but manages through her strength and spirituality to bring sunshine into the lives of others. From her early days she had to struggle to survive and she was always very independent and resourceful. Meeting Mary Rose was a motivating experience for me and made me feel that I could do anything if I put my mind to it.

On our return home from Thunder Bay we stopped in a little First Nation community to visit with Mary Achneepineskum and her husband Martin. This was a real treat for my dad as this was the first time he had ever seen his aunt Mary. When we entered their home we found Mary busy in the living room making a pair of moose hide mitts. She was surrounded by all types of craft supplies. We all took some time to admire her fine work. Martin is also a Native crafts person who specializes in handmade snowshoes, tikinaguns or cradleboards and beautiful hand held drums.

It was good to spend so much quality time with my parents and I learned a lot on this journey through the northland.

- By Xavier Kataquapit

Cont'd from page 6

earlier.

In the instance involving the death of my father-in-law however, I was approached by two individuals from the community on the day of the funeral, informing me that the grieving family had indicated that they were not prepared to feed the numerous visitors as they had limited financial abilities. This was also as a result of caring for the deceased while he was still in hospital. The two individuals did not feel capable of coordinating a community feast due to their exhaustion and state of health, I had gathered that they had been asked to do so.

As a community leader, I searched for ways to help with a situation and as I too was part of the grieving family, it was not an easy thing to do. The decision was made to have the Nemaska restaurant and the 4 in 1 provide the evening meal for the grieving family members, visiting relatives as well as visitors and guests. The following morning a brunch was provided by the Nemaska restaurant to the same parties. These activities were provided in lieu of the traditional community feast.

As the family of the departed elder began to prepare to return to the bush, I was quite aware of their depleted financial resources. One of the concerned individuals was the guardian of my son. I invited them to secure the provisions which they needed at the local store and to assign the costs to my account, this I did at my own initiative, they did not have to ask.

To put this bluntly: as a concerned father, a relative of the grieving family and as a community leader I made sure this family was able to return to their home with food for the coming week. Yes it happened during an election.. Yes, it also happened during a period of community mourning. If asked if I would again ensure that my son and his guardian family had food for their return, I must state clearly that I would always do my best to guarantee that my son would have food.

How this information was allowed to circulate among the community is puzzling as my account information should have been confidential and most of the community is well aware of the parenting situation with my son. So why was this even an issue? The only answer I have been able to generate is that it was due to "pre-election fever" or just mean-spirited individuals.

I have spent many wonderful times in the bush with my former father-in-law and my son. They have helped me on moose hunting trips. My son killed his first moose on one such trip.

I have not been able to raise my son as I would have liked, but I know the Creator has chosen a different path for me in my life, and I am forever grateful for the help and support this whole family has given to me and my son over the years. To me this is priceless.

The law of reciprocity is very much alive and is one of the most traditional and treasured values within the Cree Nation, and this I respect very much. And if this family requires my help again, I will gladly respond in any way I can, paying for groceries is a mere drop in the bucket in respect to what they have already given to me with their caring and generosity of spirit.

Chief George Wapachee
Nemaska First Nation
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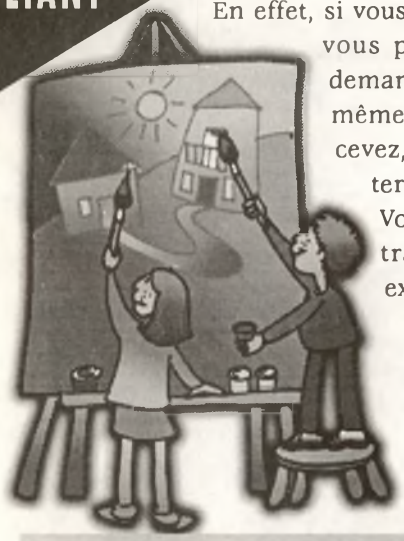

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Cette publicité est produite avec la participation de Justice Canada.

Québec

CLASSIFIEDS

100-BIRTHS

Congratulations to my friend Florence Petawabano on the birth of her baby girl, Danielle Beatrice Rose born on Jan. 22, 1999. Take good care of your little angel and wish you all the best, joy and happiness. From Rachel and Demera.

101-BIRTHDAYS

Birthday wishes to my husband and our dad James Cheezo who turns another year older on Feb. 4. Happy birthday old man! Lots of love coming from your wife and children.

For Leslie Mianscum; I want to wish my daddy (bigfoot) the happy birthday on March 26. And without a doubt you are truly my shining star. Love and kisses, Noelene Mianscum.

Happy first birthday to Kelsie Angel who will be celebrating her birthday in Waskaganish on Feb. 7 1999. Daughter of Sabrina Jolly and John Ottereyes.

Birthday wishes to my cousin who will be celebrating his 16th birthday in Waskaganish on Feb. 25 1999. I still love you as my cousin even though we don't often talk to each other. You're still my cousin. Any ways, hope you will not party on your birthday. From your cousin in Waskaganish. P.S. this time, I didn't forget your birthday.

Happy birthday to my brother Johnny Brien on Jan. 16. I wish you all the best in life in many more years to come. Love, sister Mary Loon.

A special birthday wish to our daughter Greda Loon on February 3rd. Thank you for keeping our home clean and looking after your brother and sister. Thank you with all of my heart. We love you so much. Love mom dad.

A happy birthday to my special cousin Roxanne Pelchat on Feb. 7 1999. Happy birthday and many more years to come and I hope you have a wonderful birthday. From your cousin Kerrianne (Eastmain) P.S. I hope I will see soon and happy Valentine's Day.

A happy Sweet 16th birthday to our friend Katherina Trapper (Blossom) on February 17th. Have fun on your sweet 16th birthday and stop looking at PB (just kidding) from your buddies in Mistissini, Priscilla, Jessica, Nina, Maggie, Amanda, Jessica I. and last but not least Mary Longchap.

I would like to wish my love a happy birthday Mario Lord. You bring so much love in my life. I love you. I wish you happy birthday my love. Your love always Dolores Gull.xoxoxoxoxoxoxo.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to a sweet and beautiful girl Alyssa C. on February 3rd. She'll be 8 years old. Hope your day is a special as you are. Love, Marlene and Tasha Pooh.

Happy birthday to our sister April Guanish on April 5 1999. Happy birthday to our aunt Naomi Guanish on April 29 1999. Happy birthday to our mom Martha Mameanskum on April 21st 1999. Best wishes to all and many more to come. From Marianne, John, Pamela and Kautnat Chescappio. Joseph Paul Guanish, Jolene McKenzie. Kawawachikimach

Happy 3rd birthday to Sebastien Coon Come on Feb. 20 1999. Also to our Grandpa Richard Pepabano on Feb. 20 1999. Have a great birthday and I love you both very much. Love,Corrina Nathan and Jean Paul.

A happy 15th birthday to someone special on March 7. Her name is Angelina Gunner. We want to let you know we miss you and whenever you do stay in school. We're proud that you have come this far and continue with your education. Follow that dream of going to college you can do it, girl! Remember the potential is in you. With love, you're boarding home parents, Judy and Raymond.

Birthday wishes to a sister/cousin/friend, Pamela Sara Innes who turns 17 on March 11. We hope your day is as special as you are. Take care! Love coming from Angie, Amanda N. Charlene (MF, Ont.)

Happy belated birthday to a very important person them alive, Kenny Dixon, dad, and no one knows how much you mean to me, words can't explain how much I love you. Dad, you're a father every daughter would ask for. Take care. Love always, your daughter Sherry in Hull.

Birthday greetings! To our little Maikan (Jason Daniel George Torquil Guanish) from Fort Albany, Ontario who will be one on Valentine's Day! We love you! From your mom and dad, Jason and Doris and your big sister Tessa. P.S. a big hello! To the Guanish family in Kawawa, Quebec.

Happy birthday to my longtime friend Melanie Blacksmith on Feb. 25. Hope you weren't partying during the cold nights. You weren't home when I called to wish you a happy birthday. I do know where you were, can't seem to keep up with you anymore when I'm stuck at home. Hope this birthday greetings will catch your attention then maybe I'll get a chance to see you. Your friend, Rachel.

Special birthday greetings to my niece Shirley Wischee-Moar celebrating her special day on March 12th. Amazing that you are now a qualified teacher and a good role model for the youth in Waskaganish. For a girl who used to hide her homework in the snow bank you have come a long way. Congratulations and enjoy your day. Best wishes from your aunt Dorothy.

Birthday greetings to our Grandpa James Cheezo. Lots of love coming from your 23 grandchildren and your three great grandchildren.

Happy 6th birthday to our handsome son and brother, Jeremy Warren Linklater who celebrates on Feb. 16. Lots of love coming from the men dad, Amanda, Kristen, Justin and Jordan. We love you to pieces. P.S. hope you enjoy your party and cake.

To my beloved daughter Demera Melissa Gracian. Happy first birthday on March 11 and many more birthdays to come. How you have grown so much this past year, how I wish you were small again so I can hold you in my arms. Now all you do when I hold you is wiggle around like a little monkey. I enjoyed watching you grow this past year. I watched you learn to crawl and tried to walk and I know the years to come will be more exciting. Love you always and forever, your mom Rachel B. McLeod your loving Grandma Charlotte, love also from your aunts, uncles and cousins.

Happy sweet 16th birthday to my brother Donald Nichols on March 27th. From your loving younger brother Will.

This birthday wish is going out to a very special girl - April Ottereyes. Welcome to the teen world April. Now that you're a teenager - don't get any funny ideas. Lotsa Love from your family in Nemaska.

Happy Birthday to my Grandpa Frank Dick on February 16, 1999. Grandpa, please come and visit me soon, I want you to play "This Little Piggy" with me. Sending From your baby grand-daughter Cherish.

Happy 17th birthday going out to my best friend Paula A. on Feb 19. I want you to know how grateful I am to have you as a friend. Enjoy your day cause it only comes once a year. Once again happy birthday. Erica G. Wem.

Happy Birthday to two of my closest friends from Waskaganish. Flora and Jane, whose birthdays are only a day apart on April 23 and April 24, you almost became twins with different last names. Happy Birthday, ladies. From someone who rarely remembers special occasions. (Nem)

Birthday Wishes to my Son RYLAN CHUM in Waswanipi, who celebrated his 9th birthday on March 11th. Love your Daddy in Moose Factory. I HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON! and I MISS YOU VERY MUCH! XOXOX

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to my Big Brother RYLAN. HUGS 'N' KISSES from your little sister Rayannon Chum in Moose Factory. Hope to meet you soon!

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to my nephew Kyle Abel Blacksmith in Waswanipi, on April 12,1999 You are getting to be a big boy now. Take care of Mommy and Daddy and your baby sister. With love, Your uncles Tom and Adam Polson.

A happy 12th birthday to our son Nathan Moar from Nemaska on march 21,1998. You are so special to us and continue to overshadow shyness. From Mom & Dad ,Linda & William Moar.

Birthday wishes to a special boy, Jeremy Linklater who turns six on Feb. 16. Happy birthday Jere! Lots of love coming from Grandpa and Grandma Cheezo. Also your uncles, aunts and cousins in Moose Factory Ontario.

A happy birthday to our mother Ruth Salt on April 10 1999. We just want to say that we are very glad to have a mother like you. We love you so so much even though we don't say it often. In our hearts you will always be our best friend. Once again have a wonderful birthday mom. Love, Diana, George, Darryl, Mary Jane, Cynthia and Miranda. xoxoxoxo. Love ya!

Happy birthday to our daughters Leonda on March 26 and Judy on March 31. You are both wonderful daughters. We love you both. Love always, mom and dad.

Birthday greetings to our super hockey star, Nathan Cheezo-Martin who turns 12 on Feb. 27. Happy birthday Nath! Love coming from Grandpa and Grandma also your uncles, aunts and cousins in moose factory, Ontario

A belated birthday wish to our tiny cousin Mario Rupert on March 8. Christopher George on March 22 and Gloria George on April 16 (Ottawa). From Abel-John and Meyawben (Jody) Bosum.

A happy 1st birthday to my baby

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brother Abel-John Bosum on April 5. I am proud to have a brother to play with. From Meyawben.

A happy 1st birthday to our son Abel-John uriel Babashopnashkum Bosum on April 5. We love you very much and God bless you son. From mom and dad (Caroline and Stanley)

Happy belated wishes going out to my two daughters, Kathy and Natalie. I wanted to wish you both, who are treasures to me, a very happy birthday which was on Feb. 4, 1999 and hope there are many more to come. Lots of love always, mom.xoxoxoxoxoo.

On Jan. 26, a happy belated birthday wish goes out to Kevin Brousseau (18 years old) sorry I didn't send it earlier but you know I was thinking of you. Hope you enjoy your gift (sachiidin). Love you, your Caterpillar.xoxo.

Happy birthday to my best friend Christina Sam on March 22. Every time I needed someone to talk to your always there for me and I thank God for a wonderful friendship that I have in you. If you need a friend our someone to talk to, you know all always be here for you. Love in friendship Deborah Pepabano.

Happy 20th birthday to my uncle Darryl on March 22. I love you from the bottom of my little heart. Love, your nephew Desmond P. xoxoxoxo.

Happy belated birthday to a very special friend of mine Caroline Rabbitskin. She'll be celebrating her 20th birthday on March 22. Have a wonderful birthday because you deserve it. Love in friendship, Deborah P.

We, Abigail and Clayton Iserhoff would like to wish a happy birthday to our uncle Johnny Trapper on March 4, 1999. Have a nice day and don't work too hard. Slow down for a while. We love you. From your niece and nephew.

A happy belated birthday on Feb. 25, 1999 to a special person in our lives, my dad. Allen Trapper. We just want to say thanks for everything that you have done for us. May God bless and keep you always. From Winnie, Lawrence, Clayton and Abigail.

I would like to wish my cousins belated birthdays, to Jeremy Matches on Feb. 3, Dorrianna Bobbish on Feb. 21 (both in Chisasibi). Also to Tommy Matches on March 27 (Nemaska). Happy birthday to all of you. From your cousin,Evander Gunner. Mistissini.

My sister Rebecca Bearskin. I'm proud of being your only sister. I know we're far apart but we will always be sisters right? Don't work too much. I can wait to see your little one. Take good care of yourself and also to Juanita. Any ways, happy birthday on April 1. I love you. From your sister in Mistissini, Edith Gunner. xoxoxoxo. P.S. Barry, hi and bye.

Happy birthday to my husband Gordon on April 8. From your wife.

Happy birthday to these following people; Jane and Jason on March 3 1999, Stella Jane and Victor on March 8 1999, Sammy on March 9, 1999, Marie Louise on March 13 1999, Tracy on March 16 1999, Valerie W. on March 25 1999, Richard on March 20 1999. Last but not least my dad on March 29 1999. Happy birthday and many more to come to you all. Love in friendship, Louise. P.S. happy 14th birthdays to Stella Jane, Sammy and Richard.

Happy birthday to Jason Langdon in Chisasibi on December 31. I love you and miss you so much. Love always, Olivia Tanoush in Nemaska.xoxoxo.

One beautiful morning in March of 1985 a beautiful baby girl came into this world the first child of my sister Jane, the first grandchild of my parents Emily and Abraham, my first niece her name is Stella Jane. Her Cree beautiful morning lady. I can't believe how fast she's grown to be a fine young lady like her Cree name. It seems like only yesterday that she was born. How happy I was when my mom told me that my sister had a beautiful baby girl on March 81985. And how she'll be celebrating her 14th birthday. She's my best friend and best of everything, that the thing being best is is being best goalie. Keep it up. Never mind what people are saying about you might just give it your best. And always remember you're my star in always will be my star. With all my love, your aunt and your friend Louise. P.S. happy 14th birthday and many more to come. Don't even think about spending the night out with your friends and never about boys because your Grandpa might get jealous. Anyway have fun on your special day.

Baba (Gordon), I just want to say thank you for all the things you have done for me. I know God will keep us together. I love you baba with all my little heart and happy birthday on April 8. Love always, you're son, Evander.

Happy birthday to Steve on March 18. Love, Hedge.XXXXXXXXXXX.

103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy 1st wedding anniversary to my wife Emma Moses-Katapatuk on March 12, 1999. First of all I just want to thank you for everything that you have done for me. I enjoy every moment when I'm with you. You are special to me and I will always love you. From your husband who truly loves you, Samuel Katapatuk. Waskaganish, Quebec

104-GRADUATION

A big chunk of congratulations going out to our dad, Charlie Matoush. You did it, daddy! You made your dream come true by graduating from your Carpentry Course. We are so proud of you! With all our love, from Shannon, Charlene, Buckley and Cheryl (and also from your wife, Love ya!)

200- FOR SALE

Yamaha Acoustic console (standup) piano, 2 1/2 years old. Black lacquer, polished ebony. Full scale (88 keys, 2 pedals). Included are leather bench, musical scores and timer. $3,500. Call Ruth Matoush at (418) 748-4750

300-PERSONALS

My only son, Evander Brian Gunner. You are the reason that mommy is holding on strong. The moment you came into my life, you have brought so much happiness and so much love. A love so powerful that no one can describe it but, I only know it was given to me by our creator. Every time use my let me, lets me know that you love me, and every time you say Mama lets me know that you need me. I am so happy because I'm your mommy. I levy so much. God bless you and happy Easter. One year ago during Easter holidays it was the first

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time in the last time you met mommy's cousin Carol matches-snow boy. We spend our Easter in Chisasibi you were only ten months at that time. Your aunt Carol came to see me and she came to meet you for the first time. She held you in her arms for awhile. She kept repeating he looks like his father. Now was the last she saw you but you won't remember her. I'll make sure that you nowhere. I'll tell you all about her. And I will show you pictures of her as you grow older. Because she's mommy's cousin and your aunt. Once again son, Evander Gunner, I love you. I'll always be here when you need me and keep smiling it brightens up my day. Happy Easter and don't ask too much for that Easter chocolate. Love always, your mom Edith Gunner.xoxoxoxo.

Hey, Mickey Mouse (Waskaganish) how you been? I just want to say hi and to tell you that a miss you a lot. I hope our rendezvous in Vald'Or are going to be as special as the night we spent at the Holiday Inn. Thinking that you always. Love always, Minnie Mouse. Remember room 125?

A big hello to my cousin Pam Innes and my best friend Angie Jolly who both live in Nemaska. P.S. happy Valentine's Day! Take care Amanda Isaac(Chamandy)MF, Ontario. I would also like to say hello to Pam and Angie. Your friend always, Charlene Rickard (Buffalo) MF, Ontario. P.S. don't forget to have yourselves a happy Valentine's Day.

I want to say hi to my friends in Mistissini. Maggie and Nellie Brien. Hi girls! How's life in Mistissini. Is it fun? I hope I'll see you girls real soon.Serena. Chisasibi.

Happy Valentine's Day to my darling. I just want to tell you that I love you very much. I think about you all the time. Wishing you were right here with me. I know now that deep inside my heart there is a place for you and you only. I hope someday we will be together.Je t'adore et Je t'aime. I let you. From your babe.

To all my nieces and nephews, Juanita Bearskin, Dorrianna Bobbish, Jeremy, Linda and Justin matches (all in Chisasibi) Sammy, Shelley, Tommy and Tanya matches (all in Nemaska). Happy Easter. I love you and I miss each in every one of you. The love always, your aunt in Mistissini. Edith.

To my cute little bunny. I could gather up all my feeling that I have for you with these three little words and let you know that I love you. From the your butterfly. Happy Valentine's Day.xoxoxoxo.

Happy Valentine's Day to my parents David and Anna Bosum in Oujebougoumou! You gave life to be and then taught me how to love. I know I sometimes forget to say it, but believe me, I never forget to feel it, I love you! Love always, Naomi.

Hello to my email friends around the Cree nation!Crasher Disaster (Mist), L. Anderson(?)M. Gull (Wasw), J.Blacksmith (Wasw), P. Menarick (Chis) C. Blackned (Nem.) and to anyone I forgot to mention. Wishing you all in happy Valentine's Day and just to let you know how wonderful it is chatting with you. Have fun in life! Life is short so play it safe! From Kraziecool...

Congratulations to two special people, my daughter Natalie and Francois on their engagement on Christmas day. I want to wish you both a long, loving and glorious life together. Your two beautiful and adoring children, Ethan and Dayna both deserve this life with you and I hope you show them all this love. Lots of love, mom.

We want to wish Pamela and her friend in Montreal a happy Valentine's Day. Keep up the good work, study hard. From the mom, dad, sisters, brothers, niece and nephews.

Hi! My name is Sophie. I am female, Austrian and interested in communicating with American native people. I am interested in learning and how to support you and also about your culture. So if you want to exchange thoughts, problems, etc. just drop me a line. My address Sophie Muller Obersaipen 23A, 8225 Pollau/HB, STMK,/Austria

Correction-in the Waskaganish community listing of the James Bay Cree telephone book there is an error. The Cree board of social services telephone number is 895-8833, not 895-8633 as listed. Bob Black's number remains as listed 895-8633.

HEY, JODY (Matoush)!! We miss you while you are on your JOURNEY THROUGH THE HEART OF EEYOU ASTCHEE. Come home safety, we miss your barking!! From 18 Bedabin in Mistissini.

HELLO to ELDON CHUM in Waswanipi. From your Daddy, Shannon, Dawn and your little sister Rayannon in Moose Factory.

CONGRATULATIONS, *winners* OF THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

My sincere congratulations on winning the National Aboriginal Achievement Award. It is a tribute to you to have been chosen from among so many talented and high-achieving Aboriginal people in this country – a distinct honour of which you must be very proud.

Your efforts have earned you the respect and esteem of your communities and all Canadians. Your individual accomplishments reflect the overall progress being made in strengthening Aboriginal communities, people and economies – an important objective of *Gathering Strength – Canada's Aboriginal Action Plan.*

It remains important, particularly during the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, to raise Canadians' awareness of the impressive accomplishments that are so widespread among the First Nations, Métis and Inuit in this country. Many thanks to the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation for organizing this distinguished awards ceremony.

Jane Stewart

The Honourable Jane Stewart, P.C., M.P.

Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien

CANADA

Dr. Howard Adams, *Métis human rights activist and Vancouver Métis Association founder*

James Bartleman, *Canada's High Commissioner to South Africa*

Dorothy Betz, *founder of the Winnipeg Indian and Métis Friendship Centre and pioneer court worker*

Honourable Madame Justice Rose Toodick Boyko, *the first Aboriginal woman appointed a federal judge*

Dr. Edward Cree, *internationally renowned, Montreal-based maxillofacial surgeon*

Dr. Lillian Eva Dyck, *University of Saskatchewan neuropsychiatry researcher*

Dorothy Grant, *Vancouver-based Haida artist and internationally acclaimed fashion designer*

Judge James Igloliorte, *the first provincially appointed Inuk judge in Newfoundland and Labrador*

Dr. Malcolm King, *cystic fibrosis, asthma and chronic bronchitis researcher, and the first Aboriginal full professor in a medical school*

Mitiarjuk Attasie Nappaaluk, *the first Inuk novelist*

Theresa Stevenson, *founder of Regina's nationally renowned hot lunch program for Aboriginal inner-city children*

David Tuccaro, *Top 40 Under 40 recognized entrepreneur*

'Alika LaFontaine, *16-year-old, pre-med student*

Dr. Allen Sapp, *internationally celebrated Cree painter*

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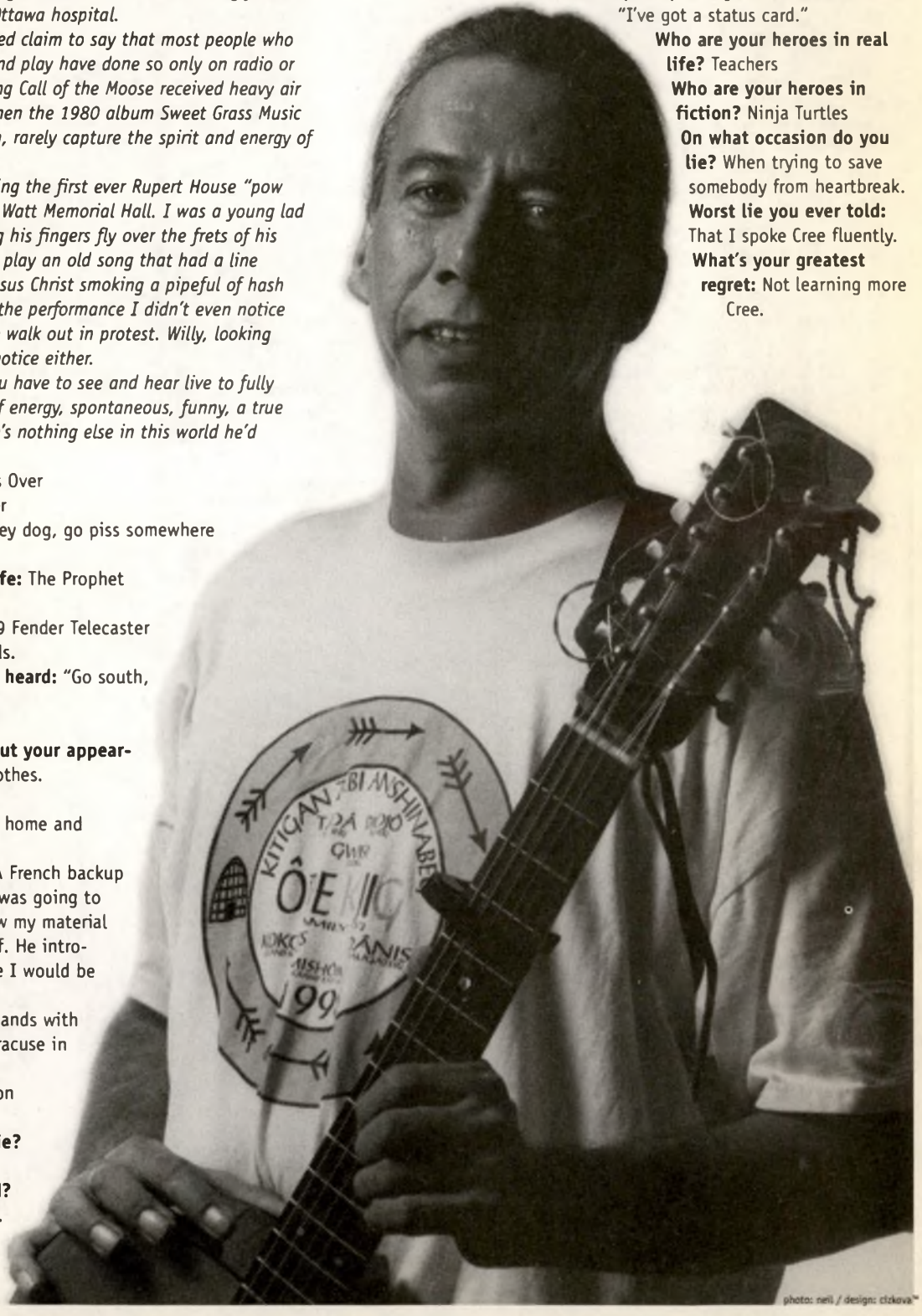
Thirty years ago in Maniwaki, Quebec a policeman shot and nearly killed a fleeing 15-year-old Indian boy who had stolen a light bulb from an outdoor display. That fateful night inspired an angry young **Willy Mitchell** *to pen his first song, Big Policeman, while recovering from a .38 calibre bullet wound in an Ottawa hospital.*

It's probably not an exaggerated claim to say that most people who have heard Willy Mitchell sing and play have done so only on radio or on one of his recordings. His song Call of the Moose received heavy air play on the northern network when the 1980 album Sweet Grass Music was released. Recordings though, rarely capture the spirit and energy of live performance.

I first heard Willy in 1977 during the first ever Rupert House "pow wow." The venue was the J.S.C. Watt Memorial Hall. I was a young lad seated in the front row watching his fingers fly over the frets of his acoustic guitar, listening to him play an old song that had a line describing Judas Iscariot and Jesus Christ smoking a pipeful of hash together. I was so engrossed in the performance I didn't even notice the mostly Pentecostal audience walk out in protest. Willy, looking back on it now, didn't seem to notice either.

Willy is one of those artists you have to see and hear live to fully appreciate. On stage he is full of energy, spontaneous, funny, a true performer and you can tell there's nothing else in this world he'd rather be doing.

Words you love to hear: War Is Over
Words you hate to hear: Nigger
Epitaph on your headstone: Hey dog, go piss somewhere else!
Who were you in a previous life: The Prophet Handsome Lake.
Most treasured possession: '69 Fender Telecaster
Greatest fear: Having no friends.
Best words of advice you ever heard: "Go south, Willy!"
Favorite Name: Nikamoon
What do you dislike most about your appearance? My clothes...same old clothes.
Hobbies: Tai Chi
Favorite line from a song: Our home and native land
Most embarrassing moment: A French backup band member asked me what I was going to sing. I knew they wouldn't know my material so I said I better play by myself. He introduced me and told the audience I would be doing "By Myself."
Brush with greatness: Shook hands with John Lennon at a protest in Syracuse in 1970.
Choice for honorary native: Don Macleod. He's an honest guy.
Who would play you in a movie? Buckley Petawabano
What do you hate to be called? At three o'clock in the morning.
Favorite song: "Ugliest Girl In The World" by Bob Dylan.
Favorite quote: "There's no place like home" Dorothy in Wizard of Oz
Dream job: Aerobics Instructor in some tropical place.
Reason for living: To please my wife.
Best pickup line you've heard or used: "I've got a status card."
Who are your heroes in real life? Teachers
Who are your heroes in fiction? Ninja Turtles
On what occasion do you lie? When trying to save somebody from heartbreak.
Worst lie you ever told: That I spoke Cree fluently.
What's your greatest regret: Not learning more Cree.



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